

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TUNIS 07426 211617Z

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4654

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 7426

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNSC TS

SUBJECT: U.S. VETO OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON NAMIBIA

REF: STATE 259436

1. IN ABSEMIE ABROAD OF BOTH PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN MINISTER, I CALLED ON AHMED GHEZAL, SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL CURRENTLY IN TUNISIA, MAKING POINTS CONTAINED REFTEL AND LEAVING WITH HIM COPY OF GOVERNOR SCRANTON'S STATEMENT AND UNOFFICIAL FRENCH TRASLATION.

2. GHEZAL SAID THAT GOT MOST APPRECIATIVE THAT USG HAD WISHED SHARE OUR REASONS FOR VETOING THE RESOLUTION CALLING FOR SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. IN GENERAL, GOT BELIEVED IN KEEPING UP PRESSURE ON SOUTH AFRICA AND CERTAINLY (NOTING OUR POSITION ON ARMS EMBARGO) WAS COMPLETELY OPPOSED TO SUPPLY OF ARMS TO SOUTH AFRICA. GHEZAL REPEATED HE MOST APPRECIATIVE OF KNOWING WHY THIS "WORSE POSSIBLE TIME" TO MOVE TO BRING SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. HE WOULD SEE THAT OUR VIEWS BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF APPROPRIATE MEMBERS TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT. WE COULD BE ASSURED THAT GOT SUPPORTED EFFORTS MADE BY SECRETARS ACHIEVE SOLUTION TO PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA AND WISHED EVERY SUCCESS TO NEGOTIATIONS TO ACHIEVE NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE.

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Message Attributes

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